

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a substantially flat top face including a top cover;

a front face slanted such that ~~the bottom side thereof recedes in a particular direction towards~~ a lower portion of the front face is closer than an upper portion of the front face to a back face of the image forming apparatus; and

a paper discharge tray and a paper feed tray both disposed at a lower portion of the front face, the paper discharge tray and paper feed tray both protruding ~~in an opposite direction to the particular direction~~ from said lower portion of the front face in a forward direction away from said back face of the image forming apparatus,

wherein a front edge portion of said top cover in said substantially flat top face of said image forming apparatus aligns with a top edge of said front face, and said top cover is configured to be opened by lifting said front edge portion of said top cover.

2. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the paper feed tray is provided under said paper discharge tray.

3. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said paper discharge tray is tiltable upward and downward.

4. (currently amended) [[The]] An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
further comprising:

a substantially flat top face;

a front face slanted such that the bottom side thereof recedes in a particular direction
towards a back face of the image forming apparatus;

a paper discharge tray and a paper feed tray both disposed at a lower portion of the front
face, the paper discharge tray and paper feed tray both protruding in an opposite direction to the
particular direction, and said paper discharge tray being tiltable upward and downward; and

a release mechanism provided at the top of the paper discharge tray that, when the paper
discharge tray is tilted upward, releases the pressure applied to the paper stacked in the paper
feed tray.

5. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein
when the paper discharge tray is tilted upward, the paper feed tray moves in a direction opposite
to that in which paper is fed.

6. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein
an opening of the paper feed tray is determined depending on an angle at which the paper
discharge tray is titled and a distance to which the paper feed tray is drawn.

Claims 7-27 (canceled).

28. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 6,

wherein the paper feed tray has an opening on a front face thereof, and has an end fence for blocking the opening.

29. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the paper discharge tray covers the paper feed tray as a top cover thereof.

30. (currently amended) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an operations unit provided on the front face, said operations unit protruding in the ~~opposite direction to the particular~~ forward direction away from said back face of the image forming apparatus.

31. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a recording head that discharges recording liquid for forming images.

32. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 31, further comprising:

a sub-tank that supplies the recording liquid to the recording head; and

a recording liquid cartridge that supplies the recording liquid to the sub-tank.

33. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 32, further comprising:

a cartridge loading unit in which the recording liquid cartridge is loaded, the cartridge loading unit provided on the front face.

34. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 33, wherein the recording liquid cartridge is loaded to the cartridge loading unit in the direction in which the paper is fed.

35. (previously presented) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

at least one of an operations unit, a connector to which an external resource is to be connected, a power switch, and another connector to which a power cable is to be connected is provided on the front face.

36. (new) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein a step is formed on said top face to divide said top face into a front portion and a rear portion.

37. (new) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a cartridge loading part protruding from said front face in the forward direction away from said back face of the image forming apparatus.

38. (new) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cartridge loading part includes a front cover configured to be opened for loading and unloading an ink cartridge.

39. (new) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 38, further comprising an operations unit and a display unit disposed on a top face of said front cover.

40. (new) The image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said front edge portion of said top cover is slanted to be flush with and in a plane of the slanted front face of said image forming apparatus.